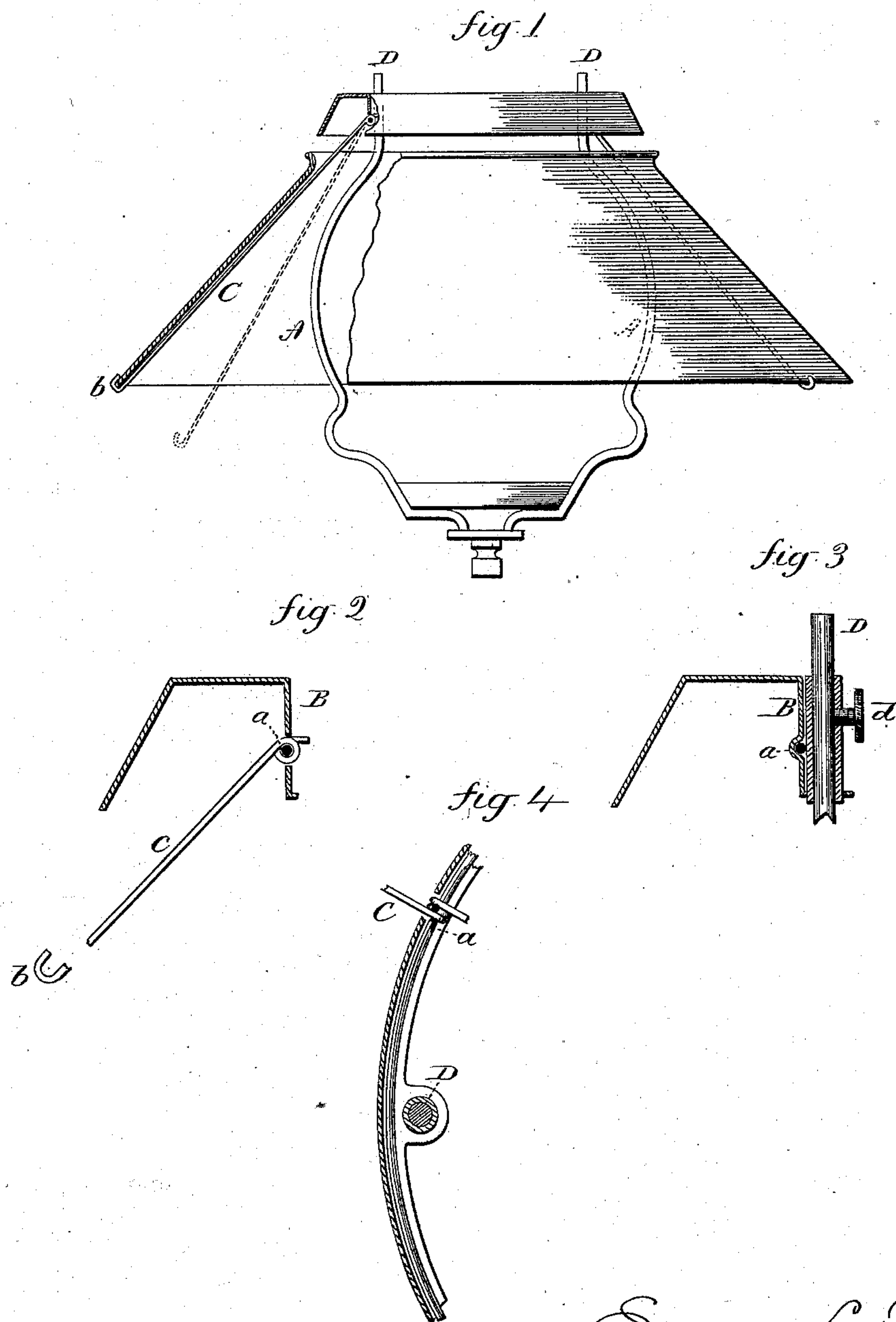


(No Model.)

E. L. BRYANT.
SHADE HOLDER.

No. 255,588.

Patented Mar. 28, 1882.



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDSON L BRYANT, OF ANSONIA, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO
WALLACE & SONS, OF SAME PLACE.

SHADE-HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 255,588, dated March 28, 1882.

Application filed February 1, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDSON L. BRYANT, of Ansonia, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented new Improve-
5 ments in Shade-Holders; and I do hereby declare the following, when taken in connection with accompanying drawings and the letters of reference marked thereon, to be a full, clear,
and exact description of the same, and which
10 said drawings constitute part of this specification, and represent, in—

Figure 1, a sectional side view; Figs. 2, 3, and 4, detached views enlarged.

This invention relates to an improvement in
15 holders for that class of lamp-shades which are suspended from above, and usually in frustum of cone shape, and such as employed for hanging lamps. In some cases these shades are held by a rigid ring or support at the neck,
20 which allows but a slight variation of the size of shade, so that care must be exercised by the person using the shade that an exact size be obtained. In other cases the shade rests upon a ring at the bottom. Here again the same
25 difficulty occurs in requiring the precise size of shade.

It frequently occurs in the use of this class of fixtures that one person will require a shade of very much larger diameter than another—
30 that is to say, one person requires a twelve-inch shade, where another person with the same lamp will require a fourteen-inch shade. Hence the dealer must keep a corresponding variety of fixtures.

35 The object of my invention is the construction of a shade-holder which will take various sizes of shade, support it firmly, and avoid the stationary ring or bearing at the top or bottom which limits the size of the shade; and the in-
40 vention consists in two or more hangers extending from the fixture above the shade downward and hinged at their upper end, so as to freely swing radially outward or inward, their lower ends constructed to engage the lower
45 edge of the shade independent of any bearing upon the shade above or other bearing at the bottom than that afforded by the hangers themselves, as more fully hereinafter described.

A represents the lamp-supports extending
50 from the lamp-rest at the bottom, and may be

of any of the usual shapes. To these lamp-supports a ring, B, is attached above, and to that ring two or more hangers, C, are hinged, (here represented as made from wire,) their upper end coiled around a wire, *a*, in the ring, as
55 seen in Fig. 2, and so as to swing freely thereon in a radial plane. Each of the said hangers C terminate at their lower end in a hook, *b*. These hangers are in length greater than the depth of shade. When free they will hang
60 in nearly a vertical position. The shade is passed up or down outside the hangers until the hooks may be engaged with the lower edge, as seen in Fig. 2. There should be three of
65 these hangers, so as to engage at points equidistant on the edge of the shade. The shade rests on the hangers within the hooks, and is held without any other support or fastening. The hangers, being free for radial movement,
70 will receive and hold shades of great variation in diameter. As, for illustration, suppose the shade in Fig. 1 to be a large shade and the person requires a small shade, the large shade is removed and a small shade introduced, bringing the hangers down into a less inclined position,
75 as seen in broken lines, Fig. 1.

In introducing the smaller diameter of shade it necessarily brings the lower edge downward. In some cases this might be an objection, to provide against which, as well as to make the
80 shade adjustable to various heights, I attach the ring B, to which the hangers are hinged, to the vertical part D of the lamp-supports by a socket, so that the said ring is adjustable up and down thereon and secured to the supports
85 by a set-screw, *d*, or otherwise, as seen in Fig. 3. By this arrangement the shade may be adjusted to various elevations with relation to the lamp.

There being no bearing upon the shade at
90 the top against which the shade will rest, the shade is not liable to the accidents which occur from such rigid bearing induced by the heat of the lamp or by the jar in raising and lowering the lamp in extension-fixtures, the
95 hangers giving such an amount of flexibility to the shade that no breaking-concussion can occur in raising or lowering the lamp. Neither can it be affected by the expansion or contraction induced by the heat of the lamp. The
100

hangers also allow a certain play to the shade, so that any contact or blow which would break a shade rigidly hung would simply swing the shade out of its normal position, to which it would return when the force that moved it ceased to act.

I am aware that lamp-shades have been secured by devices extending down within the shade, and so as to engage with the lower edge, and therefore do not broadly claim such a device; but in such previous constructions a bearing has been necessary for the upper edge of the shade and the devices have been of such character as to draw the shade up to its bearing against the ring at the top, whereas in this invention the hangers are rigid and support the shade without bearings of any character at the top, and because of these rigid bearings and no bearing at the top shades of different diameters of top may be suspended. Neither do I claim a shade-holder adjustable to different elevations relatively to the lamp.

I claim—

1. In a lamp-fixture, the rigid hangers C, hinged at their upper ends and hooked below to engage the lower edge of the shade, substantially as described.

2. In a lamp-fixture, the combination of the ring B, attached to the lamp-supports, with the rigid hangers C, hinged thereto, extending downward, and hooked at their lower ends to engage the lower edge of the shade, substantially as described.

3. In a lamp-fixture, the combination of the ring B, made adjustable vertically on the lamp-supports, the rigid hangers C, hinged to said ring and vertically adjustable therewith, their lower ends hooked to engage the lower edge of the shade, substantially as described.

EDSON L. BRYANT.

Witnesses:

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